



BAR ASSOCIATION  
OF ERIE COUNTY

438 Main Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202

**Grievance Form  
Confidential**

*Please type or print clearly*

Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work telephone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Lawyer \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Lawyer \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number of Lawyer \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Important if you have a Retainer Agreement with this lawyer, please submit a photocopy.**

On what date did you approximately retain this lawyer? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this lawyer still representing you? \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Yes If no, when did representation stop? \_\_\_\_\_

What area of law does your complaint involve? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you disputing the fees charged? \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Yes If yes, indicate the amount in dispute \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you owe the lawyer any fees or expenses related to this matter? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you filed this complaint with any other agency? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, with whom? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you discussed this problem personally with the lawyer? \_\_\_\_\_

**State exactly what the lawyer has done or has not done which causes you to make this report:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*If you need more space, please continue on the back or attach additional pages.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Statement of Client's Rights***

*(As adopted by the Administrative Board of the Courts)*

1. You are entitled to be treated with the courtesy and consideration at all times by your lawyer and the other lawyers and personnel in your lawyer's office.
2. You are entitled to an attorney capable of handling your legal matter competently and diligently, in accordance with the highest standards of the profession. If you are not satisfied with how your matter is being handled, you have the right to withdraw from the attorney-client relationship at any time (court approval may be required in some matters and your attorney may have a claim against you for the value of services rendered to you up to the point of discharge).
3. You are entitled to your lawyer's independent professional judgment and undivided loyalty uncompromised by conflicts of interest.
4. You are entitled to be charged a reasonable fee and to have your lawyer explain at the outset how the fee will be computed and the manner and frequency of billing. You are entitled to request and receive a written itemized bill from your attorney at reasonable intervals. You may refuse to enter into any fee arrangement that you find unsatisfactory. (In the event of a fee dispute, you may have the right to seek arbitration; your attorney will provide you with the necessary information regarding arbitration in the event of a fee dispute, or upon your request.)
5. You are entitled to have your questions and concerns addressed in a prompt manner and to have your telephone calls returned promptly.
6. You are entitled to be kept informed as to the status of your matter and to request and receive copies of papers. You are entitled to sufficient information to allow you to participate meaningfully in the development of your matter.
7. You are entitled to have your legitimate objectives respected by your attorney; including whether or not to settle your matter (court approval of a settlement is required in some matters).
8. You have the right to privacy in your dealings with your lawyer and to have your secrets and confidences preserved to the extent permitted by law.
9. You are entitled to have your attorney conduct himself or herself ethically in accordance with the Code of Professional Responsibility.
10. You may not be refused representation on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin and disability.



**NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION**